AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A rekeyable lock cylinder comprising:
a cylinder body with a longitudinal axis;
a plurality of pins disposed in the cylinder body; and
a carrier sub-assembly disposed in the cylinder body and including a carrier and a plurality of racks for engaging the pins, the carrier sub-assembly being moveable parallel to the longitudinal axis of the cylinder body between a first position and a second position to disengage the racks from the pins.

2. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 1 further comprising a plug assembly containing the plurality of pins, the carrier sub-assembly a containing the plurality of racks for engaging the plurality of pins.

3. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 1 wherein the racks disengage from the pins in response to movement of the carrier from the first position to the second position and engage the pins in response to movement of the carrier from the second position to the first position, the lock cylinder being in a rekeyable condition when the carrier is in the second position.

4. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 1 wherein each pin includes at least one gear tooth.

5. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 1 wherein each of the plurality of pins includes a hollow cup-shaped body.

6. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of springs, the plurality of springs having a non-constant diameter.

7. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 6 wherein the pins are cup-shaped and configured to receive the plurality of springs.

8. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 1 further comprising a spring catch for retaining the carrier in the second position.

9. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 8 wherein the spring catch includes a U-shaped center portion and a pair of arms extending from the center portion.

10. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 9 wherein the carrier sub-assembly further includes a spring-catch recess, the recess including a guide configured to receive the U-shaped center portion of the spring catch and a pair of anchors configured to engage the pair of arms.

11. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 8 wherein the cylinder body includes a groove for receiving the spring catch when the carrier sub-assembly is in the second position.

12. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 8 wherein the spring catch moves from an engaging position, wherein the spring catch retains the carrier sub-assembly in the second position, to a disengaged position in response to rotation of the carrier sub-assembly in the cylinder body.

13. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 1 wherein each rack includes at least one locking bar-receiving groove and a plurality of pin-engaging gear teeth and each pin includes at least one gear tooth for engaging the rack between two of the plurality of pin-engaging gear teeth.

14. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 1 wherein the carrier sub-assembly further includes a carrier having a plurality of rack-receiving slots and a locking bar recess.

15. (Currently Amended) A rekeyable lock cylinder comprising:
a cylinder body with a longitudinal axis;
a plug assembly including a plurality of racks selectively engageable with a plurality of pins; and
means for changing the lock cylinder between a rekeying condition and an operating condition, the means for changing being configured to move the plurality of racks in the cylinder body parallel to, transversely to, and rotationally about the longitudinal axis of the cylinder body to disengage the racks from the pins.

16. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 15 wherein the means for changing includes means for preventing rotational movement of the racks and pins about the longitudinal axis.

17. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 16 wherein the means for preventing includes means for locking the plug assembly against rotation in the cylinder body.

18. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 15 wherein the means for changing includes a carrier movable between a first position and a second position and means for biasing the carrier toward the first position.

19. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 18 wherein the plug assembly includes the carrier configured to engage the plurality of racks, the racks being engaged with the pins when the carrier is in the first position and disengaged from the pins when the carrier is in the second position.

20. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 18 wherein the means for changing includes means for engaging the cylinder body to retain the carrier in the second position.

21. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 20 wherein the means for engaging is configured to disengage from the cylinder body in response to rotation of the plug assembly in the cylinder body.

22. (Previously Presented) A rekeyable lock cylinder comprising:
a cylinder body with a longitudinal axis;
a plurality of pins disposed in the cylinder body; and
a plurality of racks for engaging the plurality of pins, the racks being configured to disengage from the pins in response to movement in the cylinder body parallel to, transversely to, and rotationally about the longitudinal axis.

23. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 22 further including a plug body having a locking bar movable between a locked position and an unlocked position, wherein the plug body is rotatable in the cylinder body to a

rekeying position when the locking bar is in the unlocked position and the racks can be disengaged from the pins in the rekeying position.

24. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 22 wherein each pin includes at least one gear tooth for engaging one of the plurality of racks.

25. (Withdrawn) The lock cylinder of claim 24 further including a biasing spring disposed against each of the plurality of pins, each biasing spring having a non-constant diameter.

26. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 25 wherein each of the plurality of pins includes a cup-shaped body for receiving the biasing spring.

27. (Previously Presented) A rekeyable lock cylinder comprising:
a plug body having a longitudinal axis and a plurality of pins; and
a plurality of racks disposed to engage the pins, the racks being disengaged from the pins in response to movement of the racks transversely to, rotationally about and parallel to the longitudinal axis.

28. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 27 further comprising a carrier having a plurality of slots for receiving the racks, the carrier being movable longitudinally between a first position and a second position, the racks being engaged with the pins in the first position and disengaged from the pins in the second position.

29. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 28 wherein the carrier is rotated about the longitudinal axis from a home position to the first position and longitudinally from the first position to the second position.

30-41 (Cancelled)

42. (Previously Presented) A rekeyable lock cylinder comprising:
a cylinder body with a longitudinal axis;
a plurality of pins; and
a plurality of racks for engaging the plurality of pins, the racks being movable parallel to, transversely to, and rotationally about the longitudinal axis to disengage from the pins.

43. (Currently Amended) The lock cylinder of claim 42 further including a carrier configured to carry the plurality of racks and a plug with a face having a keyway and a rekeying tool-receiving aperture, the carrier being movable parallel to the longitudinal axis in response to insertion of a rekeying tool into the rekeying tool-receiving aperture.

44. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 43 further including a locking bar movable between a locking position and an unlocking position, wherein the carrier is rotatable in the cylinder body to a rekeying position when the locking bar is in an unlocking position and is movable longitudinally when the carrier is in the rekeying position.

45. (Previously Presented) The lock cylinder of claim 42 wherein each pin includes at least one gear tooth for engaging one of the plurality of racks.

46. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 42 further including a biasing spring disposed against each of the plurality of pins, each biasing spring having a non-constant diameter.

47. (Original) The lock cylinder of claim 46 wherein each of the plurality of pins includes a cup-shaped body for receiving the biasing spring.

48. (Previously Presented) A rekeyable lock cylinder comprising:
a cylinder body with a longitudinal axis;
a plug body disposed in the cylinder body and having a face with a keyway and a tool-receiving aperture;
a carrier disposed in the plug body; and
a first valid key configured to be received in the keyway, the plug body being rotatable between a first position and a rekeying position when the first valid key is disposed in the keyway, the carrier moving longitudinally in response to the insertion of a rekeying tool into the tool-receiving aperture, the first valid key being removable from the plug body after the tool is inserted in the tool-receiving aperture.